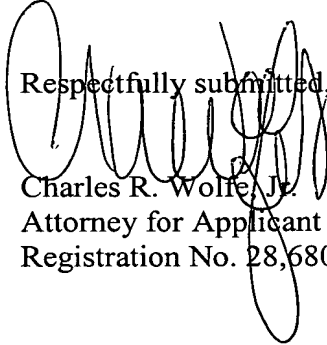


full line and broken line.” On page 7 of the application it is stated that “The force of the strike [from the player] sends the lines 8, 9 and the ball 7 along the upper and lower guideways 1, 2 toward the limiting position shown in broken line. Once the distance between the ends of the lines 8, 9 (the lower guideway 2 now being in its raised position shown in broken line) becomes limiting in relation to the distance between the upper and lower guideways, the lines 8, 9 slow down, stop and are deflected back along the upper and lower guideways to return to the player who can then strike the ball again.” Similarly, the embodiments of the invention disclosed in FIGS. 2 and 3 also show slack in the lower guideway as expressly indicated by the solid, wavy line. Because the structural and functional aspects of the “slack” feature are disclosed in the original application, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is being introduced.

New claim 35 was added to recite the slack feature of the lower portion of the upstanding line, as clearly depicted in FIG. 1. The description of that embodiment is disclosed on pages 6 and 7 of the application, as noted above. Accordingly, Applicant submits that no new matter is being introduced.

If there are any questions relating to this amendment or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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